

Appl. No. 10/077,344

Atty. Docket No. 10012140-1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A method of converting a datafile having a first format into a second format for printing, comprising:

conveying the datafile in a first format to a printer, ~~said printer for receiving datafiles in a first format and printing datafiles from a second format,~~ said printer including a controller;

activating said controller ~~for translating said datafile into said second format;~~

accessing to access a registry database over a network, said registry database containing a listing of available translators using said controller for selecting a translator;

using said controller to select a chain of translators from said registry database for sequentially converting said datafile from said first format to said second format selecting a translator for a conversion sequence; said conversion sequence including an initial translator and at least one subsequent translator;

conveying at least a first job specification command to at least one translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence, wherein a first translator from said chain of translators said initial translator in the sequence~~ accesses said datafile in said first format and a second translator from said chain of translators ~~said at least one subsequent translator in said conversion sequence~~ directly accesses ~~accessing~~ an output of said first ~~initial~~ translator;

converting said datafile to said second format using said chain of translators;

conveying said datafile in said second format to said printer; and printing said datafile from said second format.

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Claim 2 (original). The method of claim 1, where said printer further comprises a web server.

Claim 3 (original). The method of claim 2, wherein said at least a first job specification command is conveyed using said web server.

Claim 4 (original). The method of claim 1, wherein said at least first job specification command comprises a uniform resource locator (URL).

Claim 5 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein said at least first job specification command is conveyed to a last translator in said chain of translators ~~of said subsequent translators in said conversion sequence~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended). The method of claim 5, wherein said at least a first job specification command activates said last ~~subsequent~~ translator to access data directly from a said prior translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~.

Claim 7 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein said at least first job specification command is conveyed to said first initial translator.

Claim 8 (currently amended). The method of claim 7, wherein said at least first job specification command activates said first initial translator to directly convey output data to said second ~~at least one subsequent~~ translator.

Claim 9 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein said registry database is contained on a computer that is geographically separate from said printer, and accessing said registry database is accomplished over a network connection.

Claim 10 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, where said first initial translator and said second ~~at least one subsequent~~ are located

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on geographically separate computers that are accessible to one another and to said printer over a network.

Claim 11 (original). The method of claim 10, wherein said network includes the internet.

Claim 12 (currently amended). A method of linking format conversion programs to convert a datafile from an initial format into a desired final format, comprising:

accessing a registry database containing information on translators to determine what translators are available over a network;

selecting among said translators to design a chain of translators capable of sequentially converting said datafile from said initial format to said desired final format ~~an conversion sequence~~; said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ including an initial translator and at least one subsequent translator;

conveying at least a first job specification command to at least one translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ to activate to initiate said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~, such that said initial translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ accesses said datafile in said initial format and said at least one subsequent translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ directly accesses an output of said initial translator;

converting said datafile to said desired final format as said initial translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ accesses said initial format datafile and converts it into said output in another format, and each such subsequent translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ directly accesses said output of a said prior translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ and converts it into a subsequent format until said datafile is converted into said desired final format.

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Claim 13 (original). The method of claim 12, wherein said at least first job specification command comprises a uniform resource locator (URL).

Claim 14 (currently amended). The method of claim 12, wherein said at least first job specification command is conveyed to a last translator in said chain of ~~said subsequent translators in said conversion sequence~~.

Claim 15 (currently amended). The method of claim 14, wherein said at least a first job specification command activates said last ~~subsequent~~ translator to access data directly from a said prior translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~.

Claim 16 (original). The method of claim 12 wherein said at least first job specification command is conveyed to said initial translator.

Claim 17 (currently amended). The method of claim 16, wherein said at least first job specification command activates said initial translator to directly convey output data to said at least ~~last~~ one subsequent translator.

Claim 18 (currently amended). The method of claim 12, wherein said registry database is contained on a computer that is geographically separate from a said printer, and accessing said registry database is accomplished over a network connection.

Claim 19 (currently amended). The method of claim 12, where said initial translator and said at least one subsequent translator are located on geographically separate computers that are accessible to one another and to a said printer over a network.

Claim 20 (original). The method of claim 19 wherein said network includes the internet.

Claim 21 (currently amended). A system for printing a datafile in an unsupported initial format, comprising:

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a registry database containing information concerning a selection of datafile format translators that are available using a network;

a printer attached to said network, said printer configured to receive datafiles in a number of unsupported initial formats and to print datafiles from an appropriate final format, said printer further comprising a controller;

said controller configured to initiate a translation of said datafile from said unsupported initial format into said appropriate final format by accessing said registry database to determine an availability of said selection of translators over said network and designing a chain of translators capable of sequentially converting said datafile from said unsupported initial format to said appropriate final format ~~conversion sequence from said selection~~ including an initial translator and at least one subsequent translator to perform the conversion;

said printer further configured ~~configure~~ to convey at least a first job specification command to at least one translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence to activate~~ to initiate said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~, such that ~~said~~ an initial translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ accesses said datafile in said unsupported initial format and ~~each at least one~~ subsequent translator in said chain of translators ~~conversion sequence~~ directly accesses an output of a prior said initial translator in said chain of translators to convert said datafile ~~in an unsupported~~ into a subsequent format until said datafile is converted into said appropriate final format allowing the datafile to be printed.

Claim 22 (original). The system of claim 21, wherein said registry database is stored on a computer in operative communication with said network.

Claim 23 (original). The system of claim 22, wherein said network includes the internet.